

---

## William H. Natter, III



### **Deputy Under Secretary of the Navy Plans, Policy, Oversight and Integration**

William Natter is currently the Deputy Under Secretary (DUSN) of the Navy for Plans, Policy, Oversight and Integration (PPOI). He serves as the Secretary of the Navy's primary advisor on all matters relating to Department of the Navy (DON) foreign policy and strategy, intelligence, and DoN special operations advocacy and support. Per direction of the Secretary, he is responsible for policy integration within the DON and as it interfaces the interagency community of the federal government. On day to day basis, he supports the Under Secretary on matters dealing with future capabilities and Quadrennial Defense Review (QDR) preparation. Additionally, as DUSN, he is responsible for the oversight authority of the Department of Defense (DoD) Executive Agent for Maritime Domain Awareness.

Mr. Natter reports to DON after completing nearly 19 years of service in the House of Representatives, a career culminating in the position of Professional Staff Member, House Armed Services Committee (HASC). On the HASC, Mr. Natter most recently served as the Principal Staff Lead for the Subcommittee on Terrorism, Unconventional Threats and Capabilities (TUTC). In that capacity, Mr. Natter facilitated oversight responsibilities and annual authorization for: U.S. Special Operations Command (USSOCOM) requirements, operations, authorities, and related intelligence support activities; Irregular Warfare initiatives; DoD homeland defense matters; as well as numerous activities within the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Special Operations/Low-Intensity Conflict. During Mr. Natter's tenure as staff lead, the TUTC subcommittee also had oversight responsibility for authorizing DoD counter-proliferation and counterterrorism (CT) policies. Furthermore, the panel was also responsible for authorizing all activities at the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency, the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, and efforts within both the Chemical-Demilitarization and the Chemical-Biological Defense programs. Finally, the subcommittee enjoyed additional responsibility for DoD Force Protection policy matters, U.S. Northern Command, and DoD information-based and Science and Technology (S&T) policies and programs. In the aggregate, the TUTC panel authorized responsibility for roughly \$26.0 billion in annual DoD budget authority.

Beginning with his appointment in 1998 and throughout the remainder of his tenure on the HASC staff, Mr. Natter served as the Democrats' top adviser on interagency matters for terrorism, special operations forces (SOF), and intelligence issues. He was first assigned to serve as the lead minority staff to the Military Research and Development Subcommittee (1998-2003) before receiving a concurrent assignment as the lead minority staff in support of the HASC Special Oversight Panel on Terrorism (2000-2003). After an internal reorganization on the HASC at the

Updated 09-09

dawn of the 108<sup>th</sup> Congress, Mr. Natter assumed lead minority staff duties first on the TUTC (2003-2007) and then on the Projection Forces subcommittee (December 2004-January 2007), each a newly-created oversight body. Specific duties in support of the Projection Forces subcommittee necessitated a deeper focus into DON Intelligence (ISR), R&D, and select procurement programs.

Mr. Natter also served on the House Small Business Committee and worked for Representative Ike Skelton (D-MO) as his assistant for National Security and Budgetary Affairs. He began his employment in the House of Representatives on the Committee on Small business and later worked for Representative Ike Skelton (D-MO) as an assistant for National Security and Budgetary Affairs. Mr. Natter received a bachelor's of arts in political science/international affairs from Colorado College with a focus on American Military History and Strategy. He also studied at the Joint Military Intelligence College and the U.S. Naval War College.